

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 DLOS-09 EB-08 COME-00 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 STR-07 INT-05

DOE-15 SOE-02 ITC-01 OMB-01 SP-02 /081 W

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, JA

SUBJECT: U.S. FISHERIES ALLOCATION POLICY

REF: (A) STATE 069550 (B) STATE 079079

1. MOFA HAS INFORMED FISHATT THAT GOJ PLANS TO RESPOND TO RESOLUTION PASSED BY NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL WHICH CALLS FOR RESTRICTIONS ON FISHERY ALLOCATIONS TO COUNTRIES WHICH MAINTAIN FISHERY TRADE BARRIERS. BECAUSE SEVERAL MINISTRIES WILL HAVE TO BE CONSULTED, AN IMMEDIATE REPLY IS NOT POSSIBLE.

2. OUR LATEST ANALYSIS OF FISHERY TRADE BETWEEN JAPAN AND U.S. SHOWS REMARKABLE TURN AROUND IN 1977. FOR FIRST TIME IN HISTORY WE RAN TRADE SURPLUS IN FISHERIES AMOUNTING TO ABOUT \$35 MILLION TO \$75 MILLION. LOWER ESTIMATE BASED ON USDOC STATISTICS IN FT990/DECEMBER AND HIGHER ONE ON PRELIMINARY STATISTICS AVAILABLE HERE. AVERAGE ANNUAL DEFICIT FOR PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS WAS ABOUT \$120 MILLION. TURN AROUND IN 1977 DUE MAINLY TO HIGH EXPORTS OF CRAB, HERRING, FROZEN SALMON AND SALMON ROE (SUJIKO). ANALYSIS HAS BEEN POUCHED TO DEPT.

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3. WE BELIEVE IN LONG RUN JAPAN WILL RESPOND TO PRESSURE BY U.S. TO REMOVE SOME OF ITS FISHERY TRADE BARRIERS BUT IN ITS OWN WAY. BECAUSE OF CONSTITUENCY OF PRESENT MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY, IT WOULD BE POLITICAL SUICIDE FOR HIM TO REMOVE BARRIERS ABRUPTLY AND COMPLETELY, ESPECIALLY ON POLLOCK. HE PROBABLY COULD, HOWEVER, SUPPORT PROGRAM WHEREBY QUOTAS TO U.S.

INTERESTS MIGHT GRADUALLY BE INCREASED. WE RECOMMEND DEPT.
PLAN CONSULTATIONS WITH GOJ ON THIS ISSUE TO DEVELOP
RATIONAL LONG RANGE PLAN FOR REMOVAL OF REMAINING BARRIERS.
MANSFIELD

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